

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0831

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 8102

E.O. 11652: X-GDS 1

TAGS: OVIP (NOOTER, ROBERT H.)

SUBJ: BIO SKETCHES FOR NOOTER VISIT

REF: KABUL 8086 (AIDAC)

FOR NEA/PAB: MR. SCHIFFERDECKER

1. EMBASSY BELIEVES BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH PREPARED FOR WAHEED ABDULLAH VISIT TO NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON OCTOBER 5-11 (KABUL 6302) REMAINS USEFUL BASIS FOR PREPARING BIO FOR NOOTER VISIT. SUGGEST HOWEVER FOLLOWING RENDITION TO BRING FULLY UP TO DATE.

2. QTE. THOUGH PRESIDENT DAOUD RETAINS THE PORTFOLIO OF FOREIGN MINISTER, WAHEED ABDULLAH IS DE FACTO FOREIGN MINISTER AND, WITH DAOUD'S BROTHER NAIM, PRINCIPAL FOREIGN POLICY ADVISOR TO THE PRESIDENT. HIS MOST RECENT JOURNEY OUTSIDE AFGHANISTAN, A SWING MADE WITH NAIM DURING DECEMBER TO PEKING, TOKYO AND NEW DELHI, HAS OPENED NEW FOREIGN POLICY AREAS TO UNDERSTANDING.

3. QTE. ABDULLAH, THE 47-YEAR OLD SCION OF THE FORMERLY ROYAL MOHAMNSDZAI TRIBE, SPEAKS FLUENT ENGL H. HE IS A SHORT, STOCKY MAN WITH NO APPARENT PROBLEM IN THE FIELD OF SELF-CONFIDENCE. DIVORCED, WESTERNIZED IN HIS SOCIAL HABITS, GIVEN TO STRONG DRINK AND QUIP-FILLED CONVERSATIONS, HE CAN BE FRIENDLY AND ENGAGING THROUGH SOMETIMES PROJECTING A POMPOUS AND SELF-IMPORTANT IMAGE. ABDULLAH'S LAST TWO NOTABLE "AMERICAN ENCOUNTERS," HIS VISIT TO NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON DURING OCTOBER OF 1974 AND SECRETARY KISSINGER'S
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VISIT TO KABUL ON NOVEMBER 1, HAVE BEEN NOTABLY SUCCESSFUL --

ESPECIALLY WHERE THE DSLUTY FOREIGN MINISTER'S PERSONAL FEELINGS ARE CONCERNED.

4. QTE. ABDULLAH'S VIEWPOINT IS THAT OF AN ARDENT AFGHAN AND PASHTUNISTAN NATIONALIST, AND HE HAS ON OCCASION TAXED HIS AMERICAN ACQUAINTANCES WITH LENGTHY AND INTEMPERATE DISCOURSES ON AFGHANISTAN'S TROUBLED RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN AND, MORE PARTICULARLY, TH EVILS OF PAKISTANI PRESIDENT BHUTTO. IT IS DIFFICULT TO GAUGE HIS FEEL FOR AID ISSUES AND DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS, BUT HE IS AN EXPERIENCED DIPLOMAT AND GENERALLY ABLE BUREAUCRAT WHO HAS THE EAR OF HIS BOSSES. UNQTE.

5. WITH REGARD TO OTHER BIO DATA, BELIEVE WE CAN STAND FAST WITH FOLLOWING BIOS PREPARED FOR SECRETARY'S NOVEMBER 1 VISIT: PRESIDENT DAOUD (KABUL 6452), UNOFFICIAL FOREIGN POLICY ADVISOR (AND BROTHER OF PRESIDENT) MOHAMMAD NAIM (KABUL 6478) ; MINISTER OF PLANNING ALI AHMAD KHURRAM (KABUL 6523); DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER HASSAN SHARQ (KABUL 6494); MINITER OF JUSTICE ABDUL MAJID (WHOSE "GENERALIST" ROLE IN GOVERNMENT OFTEN TRANSCENDS JOB DESCRIPTION THAT GOES WITH IS PORTFOLIO) (KABUL 6535); AND DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS AT MFA SAMAD GHAS (KABUL 6713).

6. FURTHER DATA WILL BE PROVISED AS NOOTER SCHEDULE AND AFGHAN DRAMATIS PERSONAE BECOME BETTER FIXED.
ELIOT

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